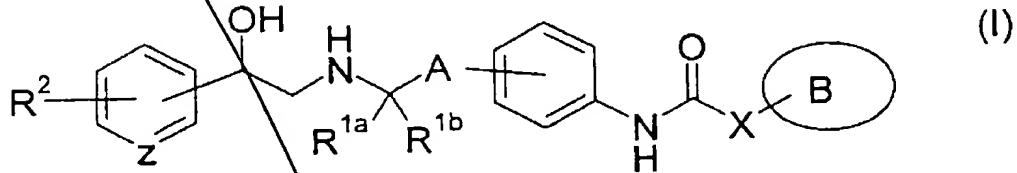


Claims

1. An amide derivative represented by the following general formula (I):



(in the formula, each of the symbols means as follows:

ring B: a heteroaryl group which may be substituted and may be fused with a benzene ring;

X: a bond, lower alkylene or alkenylene which may be substituted with hydroxy or a lower alkyl group, carbonyl, or a group represented by -NH- (when X is a lower alkylene group which may be substituted with a lower alkyl group, the hydrogen atoms bonded to the carbon atom constituting the ring B may form a lower alkylene group together with the lower alkyl group so that a ring is formed);

A: lower alkylene or a group represented by -lower alkylene-O-;

R^{1a}, R^{1b}: they may be the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or a lower alkyl group;

R²: a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; and

Sub A1 z: a nitrogen atom or a group represented by $=\text{CH}-$)

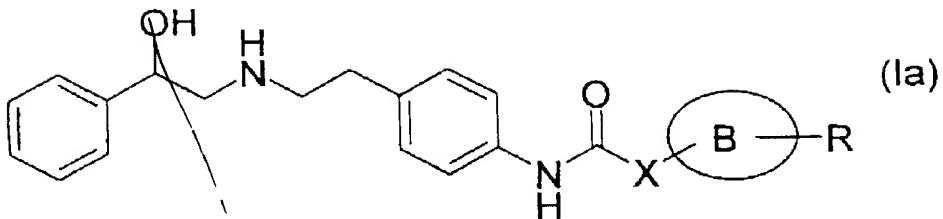
or a salt thereof.

Sub B2 2. The amide derivative or the salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein A is methylene, ethylene, or a group represented by $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$.

Sub A2 3. The amide derivative or the salt thereof according to claim 2, wherein the ring B is a heteroaryl group which may be substituted with a substituent selected from a halogen atom, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, hydroxy, sulfanyl, halogeno lower alkyl, lower alkyl-O-, lower alkyl-S-, lower alkyl-O-CO-, carboxy, sulfonyl, sulfinyl, lower alkyl-SO-, lower alkyl-SO₂-, lower alkyl-CO-, lower alkyl-CO-O-, carbamoyl, lower alkyl-NH-CO-, di-lower alkyl-N-CO-, nitro, cyano, amino, lower alkyl-NH-, di-lower alkyl-N-, aryl-lower alkyl, halogeno aryl-lower alkyl, guanidino, lower alkyl-CO-NH, and lower alkyl-SO₂-NH-.

Sub B4 4. The amide derivative or the salt thereof according to claim 3, wherein R², R^{1a} and R^{1b} are each a hydrogen atom, and z is $=\text{CH}-$.

Sub A2 5. An amide derivative represented by the following general formula (Ia):



Sub
A3

(in the formula, each of the symbols means as follows:

ring B: a heteroaryl group;

X: a bond or a lower alkylene group

R: a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group, amino group, an aryl lower alkyl group, or a halogeno aryl-lower alkyl group)

or a salt thereof.

6. (R)-4'-(2-[(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)-2-pyridinecarboxyanilide, (R)-2-[1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)-acetanilide, (R)-2-[1-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-1H-tetrazol-5-yl]-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)acetanilide, (R)-2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)acetanilide, (R)-2-(2-benzyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)acetanilide, (R)-2-(2-aminopyridin-6-yl)-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)acetanilide, (R)-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)-2-(2-pyridyl)acetanilide, (R)-4'-(2-[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl)-2-(2-pyrazinyl)acetanilide, (R)-4'-(2-[(2-

hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)amino]ethyl]-2-(2-pyrimidinyl)-
acetanilide, and salts thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical agent comprising the amide derivative
or the salt thereof according to claims 1 through 6.

8. A therapeutic agent for diabetes mellitus comprising the
amide derivative or the salt thereof according to claims 1
through 6 as an effective ingredient.

Sub
R3
Add
Am